Test 10

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SUBJECT:	Economic development		Test Code:	7	5	0		
Name of Candidate	YASHNI NAGARAJAN							
Medium ~~Hindi~~/Eng.	ENG	Registration Number	1	3	7	0	9	
Center	DISTANCE.	Date	1	1	01	0	1	6

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Page No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained

Total Marks Obtained:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
2. All questions are compulsory.
3. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
4. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
5. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
6. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

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EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Alignment Competence
2. Context Competence
3. Content Competence
4. Language Competence
5. Introduction Competence
6. Structure - Presentation Competence
7. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

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1. Waterways despite having inherent advantages account for only 1% of the total cargo transport in India.

The waterways have high value in Indian economy as →

i) It is one of the cheapest mode of communication.
Eg → Per ton cargo carried distance for 1 litre of fuel is 100km for waterways but only 24km for roadways.

ii) It is low emission mode.

iii) Requires less infrastructure building than roadways & railways.

iv) leads to overall development of hinterland.

The New National Waterways Bill 2015 aims to build 105 new waterways in addition to the existing 6 National waterways.

3

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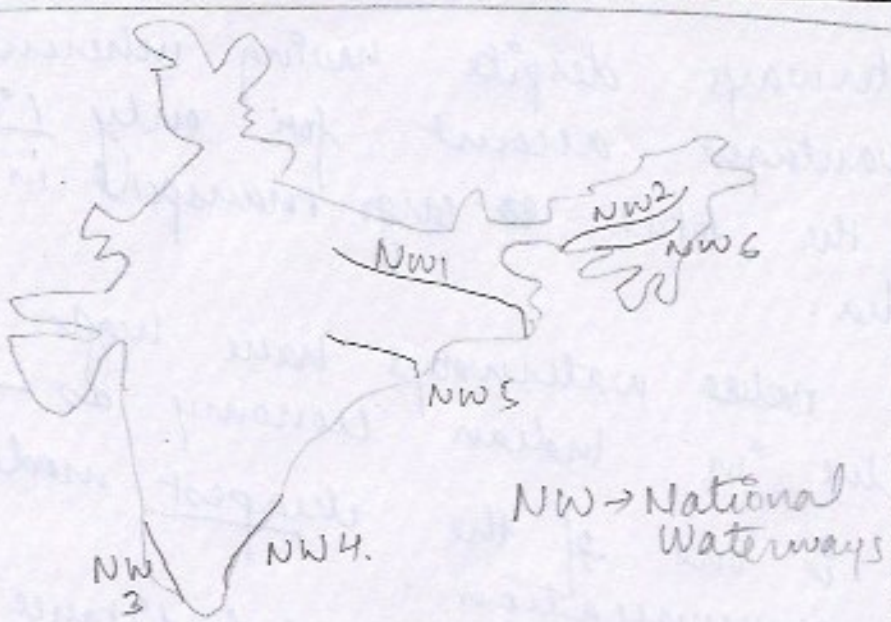

Potential benefits of an integrated approach to waterways development are →

i) Reduction in logistics cost which is presently around 18% compared to world average of 12%.

ii) ~~Operating~~ Achieving ease of transport of goods.

iii) Generating additional economic activity along the banks & development of hinterland.

iv) Reduction in congestion of roads & pollution

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v) Boosting India's export by encouraging trade from hitherto unconnected areas.

vi) Revival of drying rivers and also help in proper river management.

vii) Boosting of infrastructure development.

Hence, integrated approach to waterways development along with Coastal development through Sagarmala Project can be a game changer for Indian economy.

5

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2. The fiscal deficit target has been set at 3.9% for 2015-16 and 3% by 2018. by the FRBM Act 2003.

Need for adhering to fiscal consolidation →

i) It boosts investor confidence in the economy & leads to higher private & foreign investment.

ii) Breaching this target destabilises the economy as witnessed in Brazil. due to lack of fiscal consolidation.

iii) It also maintains the international rating of Indian economy.

iv) Lack of fiscal consolidation results in inflation and depreciation of Rupee.

v) This may lead to higher debt servicing charges from external borrowers.

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i) The FRBM Act has largely served its purpose in maintaining fiscal discipline.

ii) It has boosted India's credit rating to BBB- positive.

iii) It has also reduced in current account deficit from around 5% to less than 1% now & helped reduce inflation.

But Finance Minister has called for a relook at FRBM act to provide for a range rather than a fixed target of 3%. because →

i) ~~During~~ ~~[illegible]~~ to boost economic growth monetary policy & fiscal policy

7

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Public spending is needed to crowd in investment & boost economic growth in times of weak growth. which is restricted by FRBM Act.

Also, it would lead to greater public investment in infrastructure building, employment building & welfare measures by the government in times of depressed growth for eg last two consecutive years of drought.

Hence, FRBM Act has served its purpose to some extent but there is a need for its relook as Government is always under pressure to breach the target.

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3. ~~Railways~~ Railways share in total cargo transport has considerably fallen from 90% to less than 30% today.

It is facing from an investment crunch.

Public investment in railways has a multiplier effect on economy as ⇒

i) It reduces the cost of logistics & increases cost competitiveness of the goods.

ii) It acts as a binding force of the nation.

iii) Its 17lakh strong employee can fuel consumption & boost economic growth.

iv) It increases the ease of doing business by overcoming infrastructural bottlenecks.

9

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Despite a separate budget, Indian railways have been held back due to →

i) Using of railways as a political tool to mindlessly announce new trains as sops!

ii) Cross subsidisation which results in poor passenger service & expensive freight transport.

iii) Losses annually by railways reached 30,000 crore in 2014

iv) Lack of technological innovation like Bullet trains.

v) Lack of investment in building infrastructure.
For eg → Only 17,000km railways have been built since independence

vi) Intense competition from roadways & airways.

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Relevant recommendation of Bibek Debroy committee are →

i) Gradual liberalisation of Indian railways by promoting private partnership.

ii) Separate Rail Tariff Authority to decide fares.

iii) Depoliticisation of railways by ending the process of separate budget.

iv) Technological innovation & boosting investment.

v) Outsourcing of services like catering services.

Government has already accepted his recommendations & 92 year old practice of Railway budget has been scrapped to pave way for a modern efficient railways.

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4. It is said that small firms account for 60% of total informal employment & 40% of India's export.

But small firms are noticed to have remained small. Factors that prevent them from growing bigger are →

i) ~~Fear~~ Disincentive to grow due to inavailability of government support & tax relaxation if they advance to medium or large industry.

ii) Lack of credit for expansion.

iii) Lack of technological support & thus lack of lack of product competitiveness.

iv) Infrastructural bottlenecks like lack of stable electricity, storage facilities also restrict it.

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b) lack of ease of doing business also prevent their growth.

vi) lack of skilling and training is also a factor.

vii) Restrictive labour laws for formal organisations

viii) Presence of Regulatory Raj.

India has made considerable progress as follows →

i) Has initiated various schemes like MUDRA Yojana, Start up India, Stand up India to boost credit availability.

ii) Skill India Mission for skilling & training. esale

iii) Relaxation of labour laws. for eg → recent Gujarat labour laws

iv) Infrastructure building initiative under National Infrastructure & Investment Fund.

v) Attempts to ease land acquisition & environmental clearances

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Other measures required are →

i) Simplification of taxes.
ii) Simplification of land acquisition.
iii) Presence of over 150 labour laws which needs simplification.
iv) Incentivising small firms to grow.
v) Avoiding retrospective taxation

Hence, small firms can be encouraged to grow to provide meaningful employment to a large section of the population to harness an demographic dividend.

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5. Recent RBI Report has put NPA value at 5% & stressed asset value at 14% for PSBs and less than 4% for private & foreign banks.

Reasons why NPA's are higher in PSBs are →

i) Political interference like loan waivers & loan melas.

ii) Inefficient functioning of Boards of PSBs as said by Nayak committee.

iii) Pressure of serving Government Initiatives like PM Jan Dhan Yojana where over 50% accounts have zero balance.

iv) Lack of technological innovation & efficiency in administration.

v) Pressure of huge employee base & trade unions.

15

vi) Limited access to private & foreign funds

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Implications of having high NPA in economy →

i) Destabilisation of economy due to fear of collapse of big bank.

ii) Lack of availability of credit to boost private investment.

iii) Lack of availability of funds to boost consumer investment which will in turn boost private growth.

iv) Pressure on the Government to consolidation & breach fiscal targets which will result in inflation & deep currency depreciation.

v) Overall slowdown in the economy & lack of job growth.

Measures Govt taken →

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i) Indradhanush plan to restructure PSBs.
ii) Bank Board Bureau to depoliticize board appointments.
iii) Recapitalization support of Rs 70,000.
iv) Creating other modes of credit availability through MUDRA Yojana, Investment funds etc.
v) RBI norms for writing off bad loans for balance sheet correction.
vi) New Bankruptcy Code.
vii) Strengthening of ARCs & DRTs (Debt Recovery Tribunals)

NPAs are a big problem in banking industry today leading to twin balance sheet syndrome & Government has already started merger of banks for consolidation to tide over this crisis.

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6 Disinvestment refers to selling off of Government shares and strategic sale refers to 51% & above disinvestment.

This is important tool for bolstering Government exchequer as →

i) It provides the necessary resource for Government.

For eg → This year's target of disinvestment revenues is Rs 1.6 000 crore.

ii) It helps Government in its path of fiscal consolidation.

iii) It opens up the sector for greater private participation.

iv) Thus it increases competitiveness & working efficiency of the sector

v) It also leads to technological upgradation & best adoption of global

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best practices.

However, achievements have not been at par expectations as →

i) Government has experienced at least 10% shortfall in realised & expected revenues from disinvestment.

ii) ~~Lack~~ of Global financial Crisis has prevented inflow of ~~the~~ investment.

iii) Also, weak banking sentiments & high rate of interest has also prevented private investment.

iv) Weak financial markets have depreciated the asset value.

But Government has taken measures to handle this →

i) Disinvestment Department of

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Finance Ministry has been renamed as DIPAM & will also involve in buyback of shares.

ii) Banking consolidation is being pursued.

iii) Interest rates has also being reduced to 6.25% to boost investment.

iv) Improvement in ease of doing business rating to 130 rank will also help in improving credit ranking & thus boosting the asset value.

Disinvestment is a critical tool for further liberalisation of the economy & must be promoted to achieve efficiency of service delivery.

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7. Hybrid Annuity model is a form of PPP (Public Private Partnership) being proposed by the Government. It is said to be midway between EPC & BOT models of PPP.

Salient features of HAM →

i) Government will pay 40% of construction cost and rest will come from private sector.

ii) Upto 80% of land requirements will be arranged by the Government.

iii) Toll will be collected by the Government & periodic annuity will be paid to the private investor.

iv) There is also a framework for renegotiation of agreement at a later stage.

21

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~~It is an ...~~

v) It will cover both brownfield & greenfield ~~mechanisms~~ projects.

It is an improvement over EPC as →

i) Risk is shared by the Govt. & the private investor as toll is collected by the Govt.

ii) land and ~~poverty~~ construction has been taken care of by the Government.

iii) It is more in the nature of agreement unlike the contract nature of EPC.

iv) There is a way for grievance redressal as framework for renegotiation exists.

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v) It will not lead to harassment of private investor due to shortcomings of the Government.

vi) It has less scope for Governmental interference than EPC.

Hence, HAM is better than EPC and is expected to boost PPP projects which have been experiencing slowdown despite the initial success.

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8. India has a number of FTA arrangements ~~works~~ within the multilateral formal of WTO like India-Sri Lanka, Japan, ~~ASEAN~~ IBSA, ~~SAARC~~ etc

It has served India well as-

i) It has boosted trade & export

ii) It has boosted investment due to which India received the highest FDI in 2015-16.

iii) It has also led to technology transfer like Bullet train from Japan.

iv) It has created employment.

v) It has also paved way for regional cohesiveness through trade. and today India accounts for 2.5% of global trade.

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New Mega regional agreements like TPP pose challenges like →

i) Trade diversion from India.
For Eg → In textile to countries like Vietnam which is part of TPP.

ii) Slowdown in growth.
iii) Loss of markets for pharmaceutical industry due to high IPR standard in TPP.

India can effectively deal with challenges by →

i) Negotiating FTA with more countries & concluding the ongoing negotiations like RCEP with Asean & with EU & Australia.

ii) Promoting regional trade like through SAARC FTA & BBIN corridor.

25

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iii) Promoting competitiveness of our exports by addressing technological & infrastructural issues.

iv) Promoting linkages & value addition to agriculture & skilling the population.

In any case joining such agreements like TPP will be against India's interests according to Economic survey & India should be well prepared to face these challenges.

26

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1. India's export has been declining consistently since last 12 months and almost 15% down than in 2014.

Reasons for decline in India's export →

i) Weak global financial situation & weak aggregate demand which has impacted even countries like China.

ii) Low global oil prices as refined petroleum products form the largest share in our export basket.

iii) Competitive devaluation by China & other economies hurting India's export competitiveness.

iv) Corruption drive in China reducing our market for Gems & Jewellery especially diamonds.

27

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v) Lack of technological & infrastructural capabilities to boost our export competitiveness.

vi) Regional groupings like TPP causing distortions

Measures proposed in FTP 2015 →

i) It aims to ~~achieve~~ increase India's share in global trade ~~by~~ to 5% by 2019.

ii) Provision of duty credit scripts to boost indegenous export.

Overall Make in India project & ongoing FTA negotiations will help India regain its export ~~promotion~~ sector & boost economic growth.

28

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10 Start Up India Scheme aims to address the rapidly growing startup culture in the country as we are the 3rd largest start up hub in the world today.

Provisions of Start-Up India Scheme →

i) Income tax exemption for seed funding & incubators of start ups.

ii) Relaxation of labour laws & environmental laws for 3 years.

iii) Facilitating participation in Government procurement by doing away with prior experience & turnover criteria.

iv) Fund of Funds of Rs 10,000 for promoting startups.

v) Fast tracking of IPR requests on low cost & providing support on patent issues.

vi) Setting up of start up parks & clusters

For eg → Oasis hub for start ups in Rajasthan.

29

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vii) Simplifying taxation laws as 65% of startups leave India due to tax complexities.

Startups will play a transformative role in India's development as →

i) It will transform citizens from job seekers to job providers.

ii) It will help us utilize our demographic dividend better.

iii) It will also imbibe a culture of technological innovation & research in India.

iv) It can help transform India into a knowledge hub.

v) It can boost economic growth as many startups have now become unicorn startups i.e. valuation above $1 billion like Flipkart.

vi) It will also increase our exports

30

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& help garner foreign exchange.

vii) Many startups are also working in social sectors & will help in social development of India too.
For eg → Practo working in telemedicine

Start up India scheme along with Digital India & Make in India Mission can transform India's development story & help it achieve superpower status.

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11. Cashless economy is a global trend now due to –

i) Digitisation of world space.
ii) Fight against black money
iii) Inherent advantages of cashless economy like protection from theft or lost and convenience.
iv) Global growth of e-commerce.

India, is a highly cash dependent economy with cash transaction accounting for 95% of trade by volume but in developed countries it is only 40-50%.

Challenges faced by India →

i) low level of digital penetration like electronic payment methods & e-commerce.
ii) lack of internet penetration
For eg → Only 20 crore Indians use internet

32

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iii) Presence of a large parallel black economy thriving on cash.

iv) lack of incentive for cashless payment. For eg → Convenience fee charged for digital transactions.

v) Lack of literacy.

vi) Bulk of cash transfers takes place in small transactions due to low purchasing power which is difficult to digitise.

vii) Cultural reasons like bargaining habits also prevent transformation into cashless economy.

These challenges can be overcome by →

i) Promoting literacy & e-literacy

ii) Increasing the purchasing power of people.

iii) Increasing internet penetration

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iv) Providing incentives to cashless transaction.

v) Stringent anti-corruption & black money measures.

vi) Securing cyber threats through cyber security infrastructure.

vii) Unified Payment Interface (UPI) is a big step towards cashless economy.

Hence, according to SIT on black money, cashless economy will help integrate India's black money & also boost tax revenues & boost growth & development.

34

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12 In India, only 3% of the ~~workers~~ adult population is formally skilled while the figure is over 90% for S. Korea, Japan etc.

Factors responsible for this scenario →

i) Lack of focus on vocational training & skill development.

ii) ~~Over~~ Faulty education system with higher emphasis on rote learning.

iii) Lack of Government - Industry collaboration.

iv) Weak manufacturing sector base is also a reason.

v) Lack of Government investment in vocational training.

vi) Poor quality of higher education with a report stating that only 20% of technical graduates are employable.

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Measures taken by Government to address this →

i) PM Kaushal Vikas Yojana & Skill India Initiative to ~~train~~ skill 40 crore workers by 2022.

ii) PM Apprentice Protahan Yojana to boost apprentice growth.

iii) Industry collaboration to skill industry employable workers.

iv) Demand based skill training.

v) Ustaad scheme for minority youth for skill enhancement & provisioning of bridge courses.

vi) Make in India Mission to drive manufacturing sector to boost employment growth.

vii) Skill certification programmes as per industry standards.

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Hence, skilled workforce is essential to achieve our demographic dividend & prevent it from turning into demographic curse.

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B. Women participation in workforce ratio in urban areas in India is a mere 20% compared to over 80% for men.

But recently women are entering urban workforce in large numbers. For eg → 30% of employees in IT industry are women.

But most are only able to find marginal work in informal economy due to →

i) lower educational levels in women.
For eg → literacy rate is 64% for women by 82% for men.

ii) low skill set, thus getting employed in low wage industries like textile industry.

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iii) Lack of flexibility & mobility in women as much as men to pursue better work opportunities in distant places.

iv) Lack of bargaining power of women

v) Dual responsibility on women of work as well as family also prevents them from full time jobs.

vi) Lack of creche facilities & other facilities also prevents them.

vii) Patriarchal family norms condemning women to be indoors is also a reason.

viii) Also, widespread glass ceiling in urban workspace is also a reason.

Hence, women are relegated to low paid jobs which undermines women empowerment measures & also harms the economy in the long run as said by IMF.

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14. In 10 years of existence MGNREGA has won laurels & has been called as a "Stellar Example" by World Bank. of rural development.

Positives from NREGA has been →

i) Provided ~~pro~~ rural population with alternate source of income especially during lean period & drought times.

ii) Also helped in rural infrastructure development.

iii) 60% employment has been provided to SC, ST & OBC. furthering inclusive growth.

iv) Over 50% are women beneficiary above the legal mandate of 33%.

v) Helped as a wage bargaining tool.

vi) Also strengthened democracy by empowering Gram Sabhas.

vii) Boosted rural demand.

40

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Criticism of NREGA →

i) Delay & fluctuations in wage payment pulling rural distress

ii) lack of coordination between centre & state.

iii) Criticised as "digging & filling of holes" due to absence of productive asset development

iv) Fuelled rural inflation.

v) Corruption & leakages concerns.

Changes required for scheme to be relevant in current scenario is →

i) Wage : Material ratio must be adjusted to address concerns of both wage payment & quality material.

ii) Productive asset building For eg → in collaboration with PM Krishi Sinchai Yojana.

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iii) Greater cooperation between States & Centre.

iv) Providing adequate funding for NREGA.

v) Promoting digitisation to increase transparency & accountability.

Hence, MGNREGA can be a game changer in changing the face of rural India where over 70% population resides.

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15. Power sector reforms, despite India being the 5th largest power producer, has remained elusive. Reasons for its failure are →

i) High ~~burden~~ financial burden on DISCOMS due to financial impropriety. ~~eda~~ –
– ~~so~~ political interference & free electricity subsidy to farmers.

ii) Poor financial status of state electricity boards due to inappropriate tariff structure.

iii) Huge transmission & distribution losses of 25% compared to world average of 15% due to technological backwardness & theft.

iv) Lack of power plants operating at full capacity due to unavailability of dedicated freight corridors for thermal plants.

43

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v) lack of investment in renewable & unconventional sources of energy.

vi) lack of proper utilization of byproducts like molasses & flyash to boost financial status.

Hence, due to these failures, over 30% villages are still said to be unelectrified yet.

UDAY scheme can address the issues of DISCOMS as →

i) It will provide for state taking up their losses in exchange of equity

ii) It will also provide for rationalised tariff structure.

It will improve the entire power sector value chain as →

i) It will improve operational efficiency

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ii) It will also ~~attract~~ free up funds for power generation endeavors.

iii) For this reason, ~~use~~ many states like M.P., U.P., Rajasthan, Chattisgarh have already adopted UDAY program.

But, it cannot solve the entire problem of power sector & government investment is needed to ~~bass~~ reduce the infrastructural & technological bottlenecks for the overhaul of power sector.

45

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16 Market volatility & vulnerability to weather is a major issue in Indian agriculture as it →

i) denies fair remuneration to farmers & pushes up costs for customers.

ii) It also increases the risks associated with agriculture.

iii) With rising climate change, monsoon dependent Indian agri. is hard hit.

For eg → 2014 & 2015 droughts damaged the crops & in 2016 floods damaged the crops in Bihar, & Assam.

iv) It also increases food wastage due to rotten food & undermines food security.

Because of these reasons FAO says that agriculture is no longer attractive for youth.

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Importance of PM Fasal Bima Yojana vis. a vis. National Crop Insurance Scheme (NCIS) & Modified Crop Insurance scheme are →

i) It provides for a uniform system of insurance.

ii) Premiums are low at 2% for Kharif crops & 1.5% for rabi crops.

iii) Unlike earlier schemes where premium on commercial & horticulture crops used to be upto 25%, now it has been fixed at 5%.

iv) Unlike previous time norm of partial recovery, there is no cap on Government in present scheme.

v) Also, earlier schemes covered only 25% area while PMFBY plans to cover 50% area in 3 years

47

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vi) Also, unlike previous schemes, post harvest loss is also included.

vii) Unlike previous schemes, more focus has been given to technology like use of smart phones & remote sensing.

viii) Crop loss due to climate change is also included

Criticism.

i) Scheme mandates risk sharing in the form of 50:50 between centre & state which risks state participation.

ii) Crop loss due to animal attack has not been included.

iii) 50% coverage target in 3 years is a tall target.

iv) Need electronic penetration & e-literacy.

But, PMFBY is a positive step & Economic Survey has recommended doing away with agri. subsidies in favour of PMFBY

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17 HELP is the new licensing policy. It can help cut India's import of petroleum of Rs 7 lakh crore annually.

It can encourage investment as →

i) It is uniform policy for both conventional & unconventional sources of energy.

ii) It is based on actual method hence companies need not wait for auctions.

iii) It is based on revenue-sharing model

iv) It is pricing is based on market determined prices.

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18. Smart cities Mission plans to develop 100 smart cities across India at the cost of Rs 50,000 crore.

But it is dependent on the financial sustainability of local bodies because →

i) In absence of financially empowered local bodies it will merely replicate the urban growth story till now.

ii) Technological initiatives like smart designs and smart architecture will require finances.

iii) Financial sustainability is also required for proper governance of smart cities.

iv) To boost economic activity, employment & combat pollution also requires financial sustainability.

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iv) Moreover, it is required for proper service delivery by the local bodies. & thus deepen democracy.

Constitutional Measures for financial sustainability of ULB →

i) Schedule 11 & 12 for local governance.

ii) It contained list of subjects to be transferred to ULBs.

iii) A243 provides for financial mechanism for ULBs. like octroi, professional tax etc.

iv) VI & VIII schedule for Scheduled areas

Strategies for raising resource →

i) Creation of Special Purpose Vehicles to invite private investment.

ii) Increasing professional tax as mentioned by 2nd ARC

53

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iii) Financial devolution by states to urban local bodies

iv) 80:20 ~~performance~~ ratio of basic grant : performance grant for ULB as mandated in 14th Finance Commission.

v) Empowering ULBs to collect own ~~items~~ resources like entertainment tax etc.

vi) Ensuring accountability through elected mayor

Financially empowered local bodies is essential for success of smart cities as its absence will merely replicate the urban story till now which World Bank called "messy & hidden"

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19. Despite being sick, ventures are not able to exit on time.

The ~~recovery rate~~ time delay is very high for India & recovery value is very less which negatively impacts ease of doing business in India.

Reasons that impede the exit of sick units →

i) Lack of a common Bankruptcy Code.

ii) Multiplicity of laws governing exit like SARFAESI Act, Industrial dispute Act, Sick Industries Act (SICA) etc.

iii) Stringent labour laws like Industrial Dispute Act which requires Government permission before lay offs.

iv) Trade Unions also impedes.

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v) Inadequacies & inefficiencies of Appellate tribunals. & according to RBI Governor, even lack of skilling of tribunal staff.

vi) Bureaucratic red tapism & lack of transparency also leads to delays.

Constraints placed on the economy →

i) Lack of investor trust & failure to invite foreign investment.

ii) loss of employment for thousands like Nokia exit from Chennai.

iii) ~~Lack~~ Dissuades private investment in long run.

iv) Fear of laying off restrictions also impedes employment options which is leading to increased mechanization thus leading to Jobless growth.

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Measures to address the problem

i) RBI Governor suggested cap on appellate seeking behavior
ii) Bankruptcy Code has been unveiled.
iii) Simpler taxation procedures.
iv) Simple entry & exit guidelines.
v) BITs could also help address the problem (Bilateral Investment Treaty).

Hence, proper exit environment is necessary for developing a proper entry environment for private players

57

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20. Economic Survey has noted that upto 80% of beneficiaries of subsidies like Gold, Petroleum, LPG is appropriated by the well off.

Positives / Advantages of Subsidies

i) India has 53% multidimensionally poor population according to UNDP which needs subsidies.

ii) Subsidies also needed for food security & farmer security.

iii) 50% population dependent on agri. so agri. subsidy is needed.

iv) Subsidy also required to control prices & check inflation which adversely affects the poor.

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Disadvantages of subsidy

i) Makes the population dependent on Govt. rather than their empowerment.

ii) 2.5% of GDP is the cost of subsidy.

iii) Problem of free riders, corruption & leakages

For eg → 47% leakage in PDS subsidy.

iv) Distortion of market economy.

v) ~~Better~~ lack of choice to customers.

Hence, subsidy is required but rationalisation of subsidy is the need of the hour for fiscal prudence.

59

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Test 19

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SUBJECT:	GS I full	**Test Code:**	7 6 1
Name of Candidate	YASHNI NAGARAJAN		
Medium ~~Hindi~~/Eng.	ENGLISH	**Registration Number**	1 3 7 0 9
Center	DISTANCE	**Date**	3 0 1 0 1 6

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Page No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained

Total Marks Obtained:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
2. All questions are compulsory.
3. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
4. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
5. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
6. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

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EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Alignment Competence
2. Context Competence
3. Content Competence
4. Language Competence
5. Introduction Competence
6. Structure - Presentation Competence
7. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

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1. Yoga, is a form of meditation & represents the cleansing of soul.
It represents the purity of mind & body.

It differs from Yoga Practices of today as →

i) Today Yoga has been commercialised
ii) Yoga is today accessible to all unlike earlier times of restriction only to upper classes.
iii) Yoga earlier was solely used for treatment of ailment but today it is more used as a supportive therapy.
iv) Yoga Gurus like Iyengar has also simplified Yoga for mass appeal.

Hence, Yoga has changed but it continues to retain its utility & is an important soft power tool for India

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2. Europeans started arriving since Vasco Da Gama in 1498 & have contributed immensely to Indian art especially during British Colonial times.

Impact of Europeans on →

I) Indian Art

i) Introduction of oil Painting.

ii) Introduction of new musical instruments.

iii) Introduction to new forms of dancing. For eg Ball dancing

II) Indian Architecture.

i) Cupsed Arches in projections

ii) Gothic Style of architecture. For eg - Victoria Memorial.

iii) Planned complexes architecture. For eg - Lutyens Delhi.

iv) Preference to white stones For eg - Connaught Place Delhi.

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Development of Modern School of Indian Art from 19th century →

i) Simplification of Dances
For eg → lighter dresses of Bharatnatyam.

ii) Promotion to oil painting in the beginning to Swadeshi paintings in 20th century.
For eg → Abanindranath Tagore's Bharat Mata.

iii) Promotion to religious folks.

Hence, modern school of art has developed a lot since 19th century & continues to evolve even today.

3

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3. Both Gandhi & Bose are one of the tallest leaders of Indian Independence struggle.

Both strived for India's independence but they were different as they had Difference of ideas & strategy

1) ~~Gandhiji propounded peace~~

1) Gandhiji advocated use of non-violence while Bose advocated use of violence through military takeover.

For eg → INA army to defeat the British.

ii) Gandhiji sided with British during world war & considered it immoral to fight alongside fascist powers. but ~~Gandhiji~~ Bose took support of Japanese.

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iii) Gandhiji was also apprehensive of Japanese imperialism but Bose believed in Japanese call for new order.

iv) Gandhiji gave promotion to idea of charkha while Bose saw no merit in it.

v) Gandhiji was slightly centrist in his ideas while Bose was leftist.

vi)

Yet both believed in the power of masses, women empowerment & self sufficiency to defeat the British.

Hence, both actively took part in Non Cooperation Movement & Civil Disobedience Movement & Bose started INA March to India during the Quit India Movement.

5

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4. Both Ambedkar & Periyar stand tall as anti-casteism leaders.

Ambedkar say Hinduism as inherently exploitative & called for "annihilation of caste" & later converted to Buddhism.

Periyar also saw merit in abolishing Hindu religion itself when he attacked idols of Hindu gods to prove the man made notion of inviolability of God & the caste systems.

Contribution of Ambedkar

i) Ambedkar led the Dalit Movement for their empowerment through education

ii) He formed various organisations like All India SC Federation & various labour rights unions.

iii) His lasting contribution is the Indian Constitution granting liberty, equality & justice to all.

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(v) He also made provision of Reservation for the upliftment of SC/ST.
For eg → through A 15(4) of Indian Constitution.

v) He is also responsible for political equality by guaranteeing one man, one vote irrespective of caste.

Contribution of Periyar

i) Temple entry movement with accessing of Dalits to temples.

ii) Breaking the notion of inviolability of Gods.

iii) ~~Secularisation of the society~~ Promotion of atheism & secularisation of society.

iv) His ideas today also relevant in dravidian parties of South India

Hence, both played an important role to address the historical wrongs & to make our society more just & inclusive.

7

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5. There still exists linguistic conflicts in the country which is evident in the statehood demands based on language for eg Tuloland, Gorkhaland, etc.

State Reorganisation Act based on the Abul Fazl Committee Report, has both positive & negative outcomes →

1) Positive Outcomes

i) It stopped the large scale riots due to demand for linguistic states.
For eg → In Telangana Andhra Pradesh

ii) It avoided the balkanization of country.
For eg → Southern region was increasingly demanding separate country.

iii) It has led to the acceptance of unity in diversity.

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ii) Negative Outcomes

i) It could not solve all linguistic conflicts as many more states got created even after it.

For eg → Punjab, Himachal Pradesh & Haryana creation on linguistic lines.

ii) It had rejected 2 states 1 language in Andhra - Telangana issue but that did not solve Telangana demand.

iii) Even more demands for states is evidence of its failure.

iv) It has also resulted in growing regionalism & inter state disputes.

Although it has mixed outcomes but we need to abide by its norm that new state will only be created if there is political consensus, economic viability & administrative convenience.

9

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6. The English system of education was introduced by the Britishers mainly to →

i) Supply labour to fill its clerical posts.

ii) Create ~~market~~ appeal & market for British goods by uniformity of thinking & culture.

iii) Further impose the idea of superiority of the British & the white man's burden theory.

iv) To trickle down these ideas to the uneducated masses.

~~But~~ It aimed to create a class of people "brown in colour but British in taste".

But it opened the floodgates of liberal European thoughts & introduced the ideas of Montesque, Voltaire, Rosseau, Thomas Paine, Benjamin Franklin etc & created a new

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class of intellectuals.

It gave new direction to Indian political thinking as →

i) Virtues of liberty, equality, fraternity questioned the idea of subjugation of colonies.

ii) Ideas of Rule of law questioned the British policy of white total only by white Jury.

iii) It also questioned the policy of non-appointment of Indians to commissioned posts by Raja Ram Mohan Roy.

iv) It led to the feeling of subjugation in the minds of intellectuals.

v) This intellectual class provided leadership to political struggle like Gandhi, Nehru, Bose etc.

vi) News of Russian defeat by Japan, Italian defeat by Ethiopia

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also demolished the notion of superiority of British.

iii) English language also helped in the communication within India & all over the world. helping coordinate freedom struggles worldwide

Hence, English system of education played an important role in giving direction to Indian political thinking & helped us in attaining our independence.

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7. Communism emerged in industrialised Great Britain in the Luddite Movement which aimed at destroying machines & industries which led to massive unemployment & exploitation of labour.

But it fails roots in Asia because →

i) The capitalist class was well developed and more powerful in Europe after Industrial Revolution.

ii) Asian countries also lacked stable political system like France, Britain & Germany having their own constitution.

iii) The status of Asian countries as colonies also helped in the spread of Communism against capitalism - Imperialism

13

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ii)

iv) Asian countries also got to ~~know~~ ~~the~~ learn from the experiences of European nation from the ill effects of capitalism which further promoted this idea.

v) Russian Revolution & equal status to its Asian states of the soviet also increased the appeal of communism in Asia.

i)

ii)

iii

Hence communist countries arose in China, N. Korea, Vietnam etc.

iv)

Hence, communist ideology influenced the emergence of new ruling dispension outside Europe.

v)

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9. It has been 100 years to Sykes Picot Agreement which led to the formation state of Israel in the erstwhile Palestine region.

Middle East continues to bear the consequences of it as →

i) Boundaries were drawn without regard to the local communities. which has led to sectarian clashes in the region.

ii) It divided countries solely based on western interests.

iii) The formation of Israel & Israel-Arab & Israel-Iran animosity is a feature of instability of the region.

15

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10. Regionalism refers to extreme sense of attachment to parochial regional identity, taking over the national identity & feeling of nationalism.

In India regionalism manifests as →

i) Demand for creation of new states

For eg → Bodoland, Rayalseema, Harit Pradesh, Karbi Anglong etc.

ii) Inter-state disputes leading to riots.

For eg → Recent violence in Karnataka due to Cauvery water sharing issue.

iii) Discrimination meted out to people from other states.

For eg → Son of Soil Politics in Maharashtra over North Indians.

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Regionalism manifests due to —

i) Diversity of languages

As ~~language~~ ~~diverse~~ India has over 1600 languages & there is a perceived sense of discrimination towards some languages with respect to Majority language.

For eg → Demand for Tuloland due to language diversity from Kannada.

ii) Diversity of Culture

Regionalism may arise from the "need" to protect a distinct culture. &

For eg → Creation of Uttarakhand due to its distinct Pahari Culture.

iii) Diversity of Tribes

This is mostly witnessed in North Eastern Areas where diversity of tribes coupled with geographical isolation & frequent tribal clashes.

For eg → Demand for Garoland from Meghalaya

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ii) Diversity of religion →
Due to sense of collectiveness from people from same religion.
For eg → Demand for Greater Nagaland on Christian faith.

But root cause is sense of economic deprivation as →

i) Generally backward regions are embroiled with regionalism due to perceived economic deprivation.
For eg → Demand for Telangana as benefits mostly accrued to coastal Andhra

iv) Limited economic resources & opportunities leads to regionalism.
For eg → Resentment to outsiders in North East

iii) Inability of national politics to address regional problems.

Hence, there are many reasons for regionalism tendencies which needs to be effectively addressed democratically within the frameworks of Constitution.

30

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1. India is facing through agrarian distress as agriculture is growing at less than 1% growth.

Causes of agrarian distress

i) Natural causes

i) Climate change & growing irregularity of monsoon.

ii) Rise in climatic disasters like floods & droughts.

For eg → Floods & droughts together account for 20% of food wastage.

ii) Human causes.

i) Economic causes

i) lack of promotion to ~~irrigation facilities~~ infrastructural facilities.

For eg → Only 1/3rd agricultural land is irrigated.

ii) lack of forward & backward linkages eg. storage facilities.

iii) lack of credit & insurance facilities.

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ii) Policy reasons.

i) Continuation of APMC Acts despite Economic Survey recommending its abolition.

ii) Lack of evolution of National Market.

iii) Irrational MSP policy & subsidy policy leading to neglect of few crops like Pulses & environmental problems

iv) Regional disparity.

iv) Lack of technological development For eg. drought resistant seeds.

Impact of agrarian distress on Society

i) Economic Impact

i) It leads to food shortages & food inflation & affects macro economic stability.

ii) Decreases purchasing power of people & aggravates poverty.

ii) Social impact.

i) Farmer suicides.

ii) Rise of social evils like intoxication For eg → Drug Abuse in Punjab.

iii) Setback to women empowerment as majority women employed in agricultural labour.

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iii) Political Impact

i) Rising demands of reservation from traditionally land holding communities like Jats, Marathas etc.

ii) Growing feeling of regionalism.

Steps taken by Government →

i) Promotion of agriculture infrastructure building, through PM Krishi Sinchai Yojana, organic farming through Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana.

ii) Diversification of income from NREGA & agro forestry & livestock rearing.

iii) Credit & Insurance facilities through NABARD, Crop Insurance Scheme etc.

iv) Technical Assistance through Soil Health card scheme.

v) Creation of National e-market

Hence, agri distress is a matter of grave concern as over 50% of population is engaged in agriculture.

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12. Drug abuse is a rising challenge especially in border states like Punjab & North East & urban areas

Drug abuse can be termed as aberrant behavior as it goes against societal norms of morality. Also it violates A48 of our constitution which prohibits intoxicating behavior

But Drug abuse is largely a social problem as →

i) Its roots lies in agrarian distress especially in states like Punjab.

ii) It mainly affects the youth. For eg → Over 60% of youth's in 20-35 age group in Punjab's border districts is drug addicted.

iii) It compromises our demographic dividend & wastage of human resources.

iv) It also leads to breaking family structures

v) It also leads to sterilisation & disease transfer like AIDS.

vi) It leads to increased violence in society.

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Factors that limit the understanding & planning on drug abuse are →

i) Political concerns over scoring brownie points where they deliberately neglect the extent of this problem.
For eg → As witnessed over release of Bollywood movie Udta Punjab

ii) Porous borders & India's location between the Golden triangle & Golden crescent.

iii) Growing economic distress also limits the planning.

iv) Involvement of mafias & nepotism concerns also restricts planning.

v) Limited resources & expertise is also a limitation.

Steps required to solve this problem →

i) Creation of adequate number of rehabilitation centres.

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ii) Sealing of borders and proper vigilance.

iii) Skill building training to police & other armed forces.

iv) Stopping the sale of addictive pharmaceutical products & syringes & needles.

v) Awareness building on the harmful effects of drug abuse.

vi) Promotion to economic revival & employment growth.

Hence, drug abuse is a serious issue & requires serious efforts by all stakeholders to tackle this menace.

36

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3. There has been spatial inequalities in economic opportunities & has resulted in regional disparity where the Western & Southern states are largely having greater agricultural & industrial economic opportunities than the rest of India.

This has impacted the pace & pattern of internal migration as →

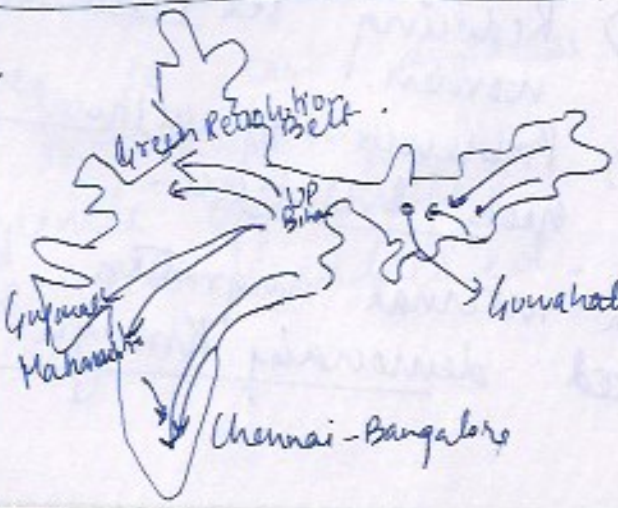
i) There is a rising pace in migration.

ii) UP, Bihar, are mainly source region for agricultural migrants to NW India & industrial labour to Maharashtra, Gujarat

iii) Also, rise in services sector & IT Industry has attracted migration to cities like Bengaluru.

iv) Migration has also started from NE to urban centres

v) Largely it is rural to urban migration.



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Challenges arising due to high internal migration

i) At source regions

i) Lack of young manpower & leaving behind of aging population

ii) Collapse of markets & cottage industries in source regions.

iii) Rising poverty in source regions.

ii) At destination regions.

i) In cities it mainly manifests as rising crimes, slums, urban sprawls etc.

ii) It also rising the problem of unaffordable living.

iii) Intensification of regional disparity

iv) Reducing sex ratio affecting women.

v) Problems of cultural differences & riots & violence.

iii) High internal migration has also affected democracy through lack of voting.

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Steps to tackle these challenges ⇒

i) Promotion of sustainable & economically remunerative agriculture in source regions like lower Gangetic Plain.

ii) Promotion on ~~provide~~ cottage industries & diversification of income. For eg → Through MUDRA Yojana.

iii) Creation of affordable homes in source regions.

iv) Proper city planning to anticipate future migrations

v) Promotion of infrastructural connectivity to the remotest part of the country.

vi) Special focus on women safety.

Hence, internal migration is not bad per se but distress migration due to inequality in spread of economic opportunities must be adequately addressed.

39

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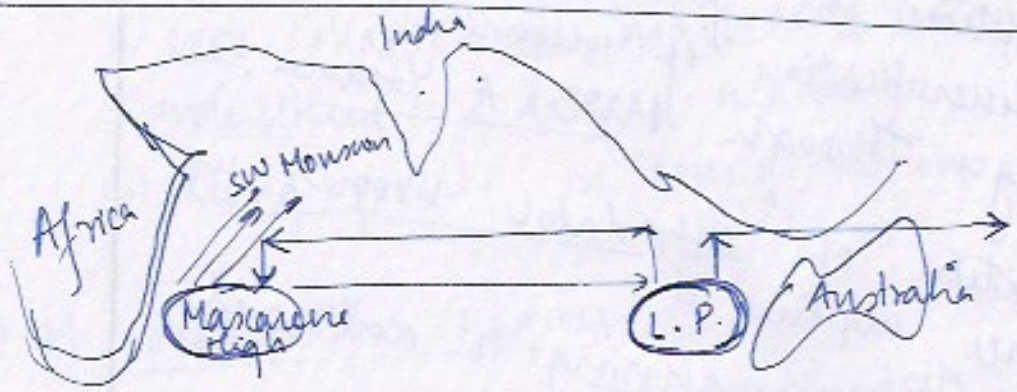
14. Indian Ocean dipole (IOD) is a phenomena in Southern Indian Ocean. where the low pressure off the E. coast of Australia couples with Mascarene High.



Relation to Monsoon Rains

i) It leads to intensification of Mascarene High which accelerates the SW Monsoon towards India.

ii) It leads to stronger Monsoon rains.

iii) It sometimes also offsets the impact of El-Nino.

For eg → 2014 intensity of drought in India was reduced due to IOD.

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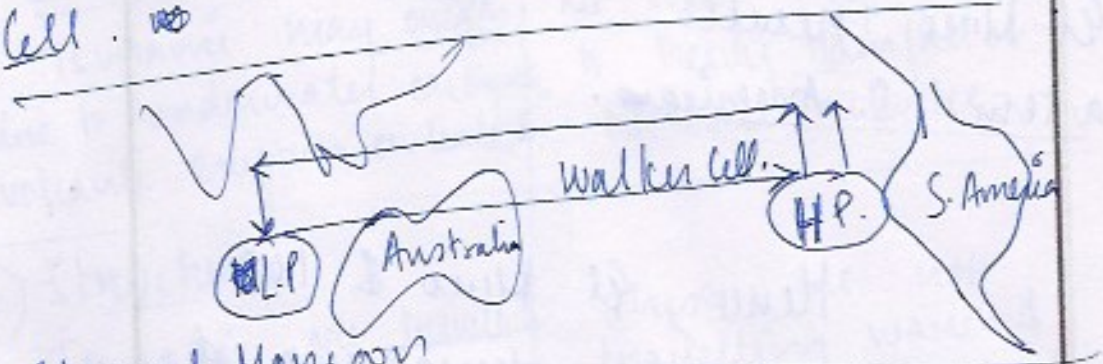
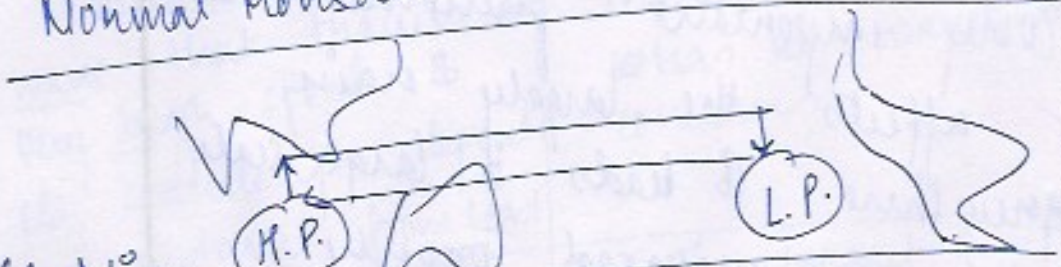
El-Nino

El-Nino as weather phenomena where the ~~warm~~ S.S.T rises in Pacific Ocean which weakens the Walker Cell.



Normal Monsoon



El-Nino-

Role of El-Nino on Monsoon Rains in India →

1) El-Nino leads to reduced monsoon rains in India due to the presence of high pressure like condition.

For eg → 2016

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ii) It may also lead to droughts & forest fires.

For eg → 2014 & 2015 droughts were largely related to El-Nino.

iii) · El-Nino results in rains in Eastern S. America.

Hence, El Nino & IOD are very important phenomena as it affects the largely rain fed agriculture & leads to large scale distress if not managed properly.

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Tsunami & storm surges are two different phenomenas. Although they both inundate coastal regions.

Tsunami	Storm Surge.
i) Origin Tsunami may origin due to underwater earthquake volcanic eruption or landslide.	It may origin due to heavy rainfall or cyclonic activities
ii) Structure Tsunami are travelling wave that travels at very high speed & its wavelength depends on distance from coast.	These are not travelling waves & has no wavelength concerns
iii) The impact & retreat of water is sudden	iii) The impact & retreat is gradual
iv) Usually the tsunami carries larger force than storm surges	iv) These carry lesser force of impact.

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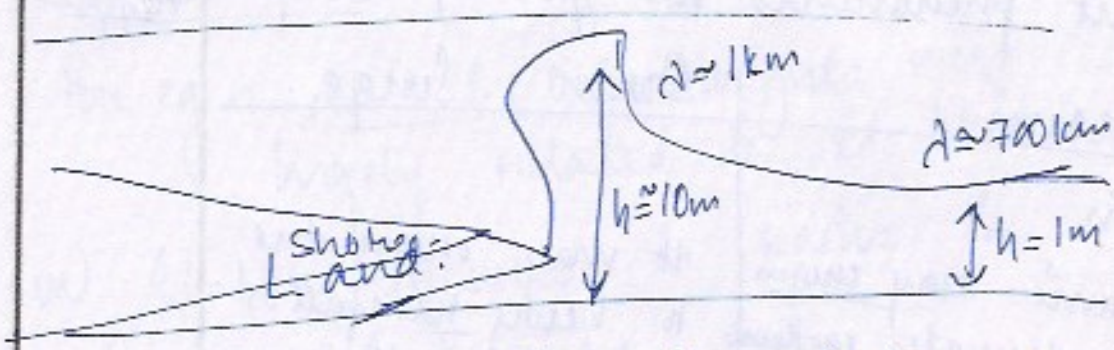

On approaching the shore →

i) The height of the wave increases due to friction & resistance from the land.

ii) Wavelength decreases from over 400km in open ocean to less than 1km.

iii) Speed may also reduce due to friction from the land surface.

Hence, on nearing the shore, the destruction capacity of Tsunami becomes aggravated & proper planning needs to be done to mitigate the effects of both tsunamis & storm surges.

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16. Jute has been a traditional crop in India & was called the "Golden Fibre".

~~Factors responsible for Jute~~

~~Indus~~ It has been traditionally located in lower Ganga Plains in the Hooghly Basin.

Factors for location of Jute Industry →

Fig → Jute Industry

1) Natural Factors

i) High rainfall over 200 cm & large rivers to aid in retting process.

ii) Fertile deltaic soil as it is nutrient ~~extracting~~ ~~intensive~~ sucking crop.

ii) Human factors.

i) Availability of Market in industrial areas of Kolkata, Dhaka etc.

ii) Availability of capital & entrepreneurs.

iii) Availability of cheap labour.

iv) Port facilities as it was largely export item.

Don't write anything in margin

v) Other infrastructural facilities like electricity availability etc.

Reasons behind its dispersal to new areas →

i) Loss of jute growing regions to Bangladesh after partition. & recent restrictions in export of raw jute from Bangladesh, Nepal.

ii) Natural factors like availability of big rivers like Godavari, Ganga & their distributaries & deltaic soil.

iii) Presence of port facilities for export for eg → Vizag Port.

iv) Promotion to ~~[illegible]~~ inland waterways like NW1 - Allahabad - Haldia.

v) Availability of cheap labour here.

vi) Availability of market in nearby urban areas.

vii) Government policies like Jute Packaging Act.

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Hence, Jute Industry is a very important industry & is gaining growing prominence as a biodegradable fabric & environment friendly packaging material.

47

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17. Gas reserves are available in India ~~but~~ ~~in~~ above the air spaces in Petroleum rich areas.

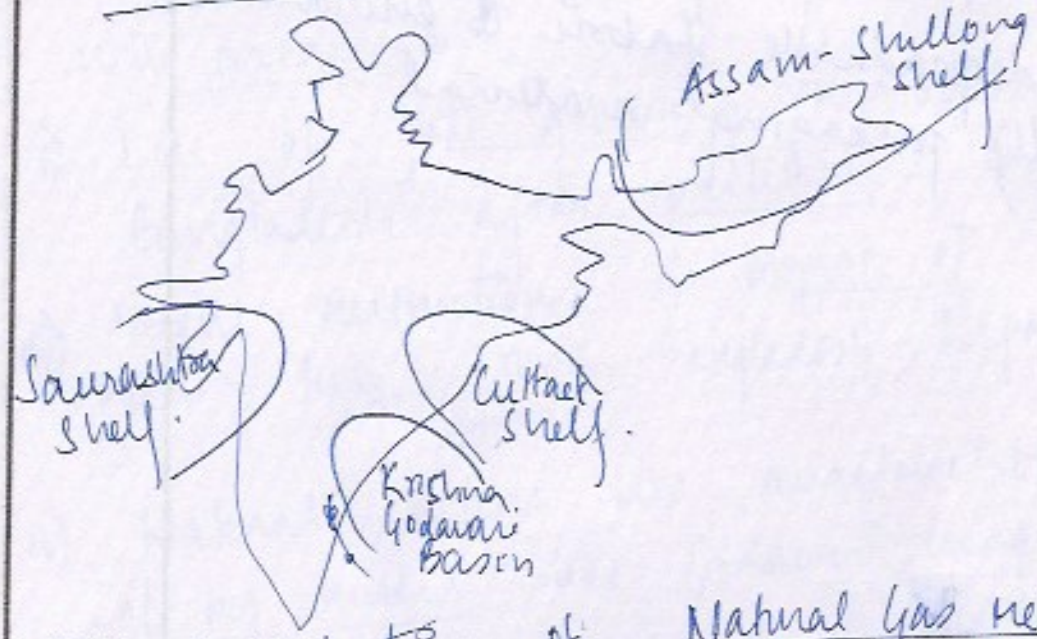

FIG → Distribution of Natural Gas regions.

Natural Gas in India has the ultimate reserve of 47 trillion cubic feet. It is available in various regions as shown. ~~It~~ ~~is~~ which are mainly areas of marine transgression. ~~as~~ All the regions have started exploitation except Cuttack shelf region & many gas reserves are lying idle & ~~ex~~ extraction is not upto potential.

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Policy of Government with respect to →

1) Extraction.

Gas reserves in India is under potential & government has taken steps like →

i) Promotion of PPP in projects.

ii) Revenue sharing model preference over earlier preference to Production sharing model which was leading to delays.

iii) New HELP Policy which favours extraction on accrual basis.

iv) Auction of 69 new gas fields for extraction purpose.

ii) Import.

India is import dependent and imports 70% of its gas needs. ONGC is the national canalising agent.

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49

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iii) Utilization

Government is promoting utilization for eg →

i) By setting up of ~~fert~~ integrated fertilizer plants.

ii) Promotion of CNG in Delhi for ~~the~~ public transportation & cooking.

Hence, Natural Gas is more efficient conventional source of energy than fossil fuels & needs to be promoted to overcome economic & environmental concerns.

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18. Recent reports have shown that ice cover in Antartica is steadily rising. But, this may not an all out positive note as Eastern Antarctica is growing disproportionately while Western Antarctica is shrinking.

Possible reasons for growing ice cover in Antarctica →

i) Due to repair of Ozone hole following Montreal Protocol.

ii) Disproportionate spread of impact of global warming.
For eg → 70% of temperature rise in oceans is in Indian Ocean

iii) West Wind Drift role in accumulation of sea ice.

iv) Sea ice appropriation due to melting of Glaciers & Arctics.

v) Changing hydrological cycle can also be a reason

vi) Presence of aerosols can also be a reason.

57

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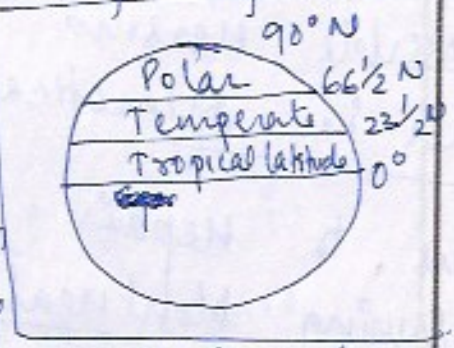
~~Latitudinal distribution of impact of glob~~

Global warming refers to rise in global temperatures which has already touched 0.6°C rise.

Latitudinal distribution of impact →



1) Tropical latitude

i) It has led to irregularity in monsoon & increasing frequency & intensity of floods & droughts & cyclones

ii) It has severely affected hydrological cycle.

iii) Affected biodiversity especially in equitorial area

ii) Temperate latitude

It has reduced the temperature contrast between cold & warm fronts leading to weakening of temperate cyclones

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iii) Polar latitude

- It has led to melting of glaciers & ice sheets.

For eg → Arctic sea is fast melting up.

Warming has also opened new avenues of agriculture land which were earlier covered by snow.

- It has also led to weakening of Polar easterlies

- Affected biodiversity like Polar Bear

Hence, global warming is not a positive sign for maintaining balance in the planet & Paris ~~Peace~~ Summit of UNFCCC aims at limiting global warming to well below 2°C by 2100.

53

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19. India has 6 inland waterways & they are important for urban & industrial centre location as shown in figure.

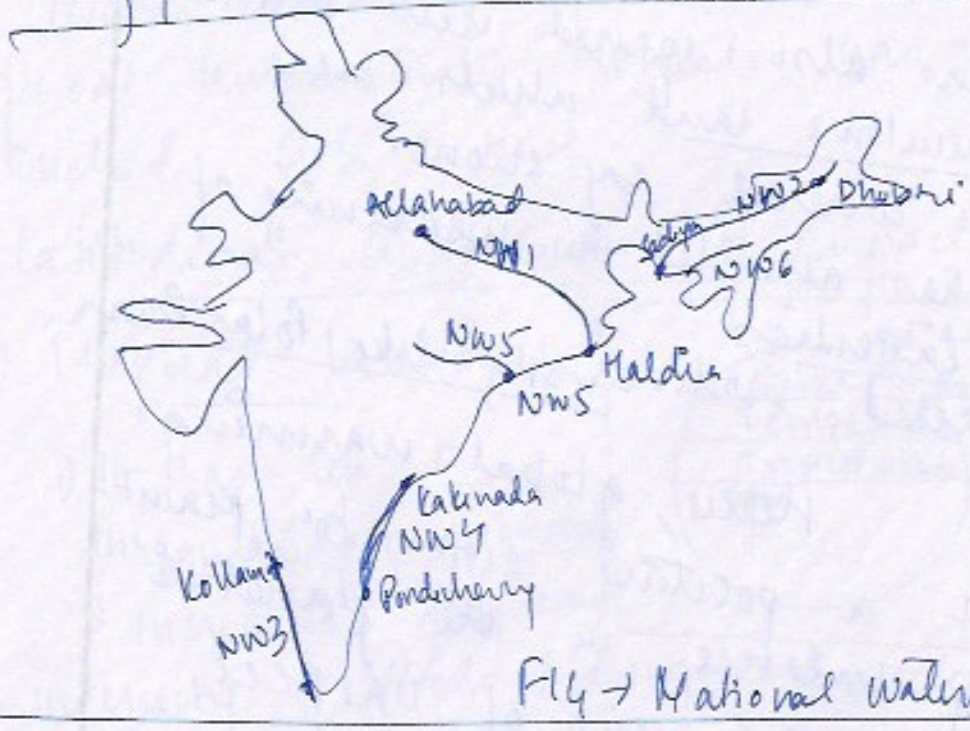

Fig → National waterway.

Reasons for urban & Industrial location

i) Easy & cheap movement of goods & raw materials
ii) Easy accessibility to ports for export.
iii) Facilitates migration of people to these centres.
iv) Provides new employment & economic opportunities

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International waterway system differs from India as →

i) They are much more developed than India.
For eg → Waterways account for less than 1% freight in India.

ii) They are much more capital intensive

iii) They cut across countries.
For eg → Danube inland waterway.

iv) Inland waterway abroad also forms part of city.
For eg - Venice, Amsterdam.

v) They are mainly used by large mechanised vessels compared to small boats in India.

Q6) Importance of waterways in improving physical environment →

1) It may lead to steady flow thus prevention of excess diversion of water.

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ii) It may also promote eco tourism

iii) Schemes like River linking Scheme may help build waterways & bring water to dryland areas

iv) It may also encourage growth of forests.

v) It will also avoid encroachment of floodplains.

Hence, inland waterways development is crucial for economic development of a country & India provides huge underutilized potential.

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20. ~~Sodic~~

i) ~~Soil~~ Difference in pH determines
it. Alkalinity is pH of above 8,
Salinity is pH above 10 &
acidity is pH less than 6.

ii) A little ~~saline~~ alkaline soil is suitable for crop growth. but not soil salinity & acidity.

Reasons for these →

i) ~~Over~~ high rainfall & soil erosion results in soil acidity.

ii) Dry climate & capillary action results in salinity & alkalinity.

Distribution of Areas

i) Soil Salinity & Alkanity →

i) Indira Gandhi canal Area
ii) NW India - Green Revolution belt
iii) Terai Region → Due to water logging
iv) Areas of excess groundwater use. Eg → Southern Agricultural area.
v) Coastal areas - with saline intrusions.
vi) Lagoon areas → For eg Karri soils of Kerala

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ii) Audit Areas
All high mountaneous areas
like → i) Western Ghats
ii) Chotanagpur Plateau Region
iii) Vindhyas & Satpuras
eg → Chambal ravines.
iv) NE areas. & Himalayan states.

Remedial Measures →
i) Rational agriculture according to agro-climatic zonation.
ii) Checking seepage & leakages of canals
iii) Soil conservation measures like terrace farming, afforestation, agro-forestry.
iv) Avoiding jhum cultivation

Hence, soil is a natural resource which needs to be conserved by tackling these soil problems.

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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1024)

Name of Candidate	MASHNI N		
Medium Eng./Hindi	ENGLISH	Registration Number	13709
Center	ORN.	Date	16/9/17

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	12.5	
2	12.5	
3	12.5	
4	12.5	
5	12.5	
6	12.5	
7	12.5	
8	12.5	
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10	12.5	
11	12.5	
12	12.5	
13	12.5	
14	12.5	
15	12.5	
16	12.5	
17	12.5	
18	12.5	
19	12.5	
20	12.5	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न-पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH & HINDI
   इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
3. All questions are compulsory.
   सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Alignment Competence
2. Context Competence
3. Content Competence
4. Language Competence
5. Introduction Competence
6. Structure - Presentation Competence
7. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

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Answer all the questions in NOT MORE THAN 200 WORDS each. Content of the answers is more important than its length. All questions carry equal marks.

12.5X20=250

1. The idea of Universal Basic income has gained appeal in recent months. Enumerating the challenges in its implementation, discuss whether it can be a potent tool to reduce leakages in the system and address inequality in the economy.

सार्वभौमिक बुनियादी आय के विचार ने हाल ही के महीनों में ध्यान आकर्षित किया है। इसके कार्यान्वयन में आने वाली चुनौतियों को सूचीबद्ध करते हुए चर्चा कीजिए कि क्या यह तंत्र (व्यवस्था) में विद्यमान कमियों को कम करने एवं अर्थव्यवस्था में असमानता को संबोधित करने का एक प्रभावी साधन बन सकती है।

Ans. Universal Basic Income (UBI) has gained appeal with Switzerland recently holding a referendum & even Economic Survey mooting this idea.

UBI refers to payment of a certain sum of unconditional money to the entire population on a periodic basis.

But in a country like India it has many challenges like →

1) Huge cost on economy to the tune of 5% of GDP.

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ii) This can lead to breaching of fiscal consideration which can destabilise the economy.

iii) It can also make the population lazy and unwilling to work affecting workforce.

iv) Potential to spur inflation.

v) Can also give rise to misuse in social evils like drinking, gambling, etc.

However, it is a potent tool to address inequality as ~~$~~ reduce leakage as →

i) Already 3% of Central Government & 5% of state's fund is going into various subsidies/welfare policies.

ii) It reduce leakage as it is universal.

iii) Gives economic freedom of choice.

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iii) Moreover, most of the successful benefit programs are also universal in nature like TN PDS, NREGA etc.

iv) It can boost spending on education & nutrition.

v) It can also lead to women empowerment if beneficiary is the women head.

vi) Reduced leakages as it is through direct Benefit transfer & digital means.

vii) Also no inclusion & exclusion errors as in present schemes.

Hence, it is a novel idea but for its success a certain part must be conditional on the proper utilization like health, education et.

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2. A peculiar combination of factors explain India's poor export performance in recent times. Comment. How can the Foreign Trade Policy (2015-20) help in improving India's share in global trade?

हाल के दिनों में कुछ खास कारणों का एक संयोजन वस्तुतः भारत के दयनीय निर्यात प्रदर्शन की व्याख्या करता है। टिप्पणी कीजिए। विदेश व्यापार नीति (2015-20) वैश्विक व्यापार में भारत की हिस्सेदारी में सुधार करने में किस प्रकार सहायता कर सकती है?

Ans. India's export has been contracting since 5 months and India's share in world trade is just around 2.5%.

Reasons for poor export performance →

i). Old issues like lack of infrastructure like deep port, old obsolete machinery, poor productivity of labour, etc.

ii) But major reason is global crude price lowering as petroleum products are our most prominent export item.

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iii) Currency wars leading to deliberate devaluation by countries like China also impacting our competitiveness.

iv) Crackdown on corruption in China leading to loss of market of our diamond & jewellery in China.

v) Protectionist stance by countries like USA, which is our 3rd largest export destination.

vi) Rising competition from other countries like Bangladesh & Vietnam in Textile.

vii) Poor agriculture performance affecting agricultural goods export.

Foreign Trade Policy 2015-20

i) Aims to improve India's share in world trade to 5% by 2020.

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ii) Export credits to boost indigenous content in goods.

iii) Extra funding to boost export oriented sector.
For example → Rs 6000 crore for Textiles.

Hence FTP can help in improving India's export as →

i) It can simplify ease of doing business.

ii) Provide financial support.

iii) Encourage exporters along with other programs like Make In India, Skill India etc.

Also, with the rollout of GST, exports have already started rising with it growing by 10% to $22 billion in August 2017

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3. What are Advance Pricing Agreements and how are they related to Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS)? Discuss their relevance for India.

एडवांस प्राइसिंग अग्रीमेंट (अग्रिम मूल्य निर्धारण समझौते) क्या हैं और वे बेस इरोजन एंड प्रॉफिट शिफ्टिंग (BEPS) (आधार क्षरण और लाभ का स्थानांतरण) से किस प्रकार संबंधित हैं? भारत के लिए इनकी प्रासंगिकता पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Ans

Advance Pricing Agreements (APA) are agree. tactics of companies to avoid fair arm length price.

Base Erosion & Profit Sharing (BEPS) is a tactic by which companies avoid paying taxes at host country and relocate to tax haven & operate in the home country from there.

APA are related to BEPS as it aids in BEPS mechanism.

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Relevance for India →

i) It leads to huge loss of revenue. For example → ₹40,000 crore is the tax forgone in corporate tax annually.

ii) It also leads to backlash by the Government in the form of retrospective & unusually high taxation.

iii) All the above lead to an air of mistrust and affect the investment attractiveness of the country.

iv) Round tripping & reinvestment as P-Notes leads to macro-economic instability.

v) It also increases inequality & breeds corruption.

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Hence, the way ahead will be to fight this on a global level like by revised Double Taxation Avoidance Agreements & also at multilateral level like G-20.

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4. What is meant by public debt? Highlight the objectives of public debt management. Explain why it is considered prudent to disaggregate debt management from monetary policy and take it out of the realm of central bank.

सार्वजनिक ऋण से क्या तात्पर्य है? सार्वजनिक ऋण प्रबंधन के उद्देश्यों पर प्रकाश डालिए। व्याख्या कीजिए कि ऋण प्रबंधन को मौद्रिक नीति से पृथक करना एवं केन्द्रीय बैंक की परिधि से बाहर ले जाना विवेकपूर्ण क्यों माना जाता है।

Ans. Public debt is the debt held by the Sovereign in the external markets. It is presently 68% for India.

The objectives of debt management are →

i) To keep the debt limits within sustainable levels:

ii) To avoid macroeconomic problems like inflation due to high debt levels.

iii) To avoid breach of fiscal consolidation

iv) To avoid currency volatility

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and economic destabilisation like the Eurozone crisis.

v) To avoid flow of huge money into debt servicing charges which could have been utilized for public welfare.

vi) It is important also to protect our sovereignty & economic independence.

It is important to have an independent debt management body. →

i) Presently the RBI manages both the monetary policy & public debt management functions.

ii) But it shows a conflict/clash of interest.

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iii) As the lender to Government RBI will be most profitable if Interest rates are kept high.

iv) But high interest rates will lead to high inflation & lack of investment which will affect monetary policy target of 2-6% inflation.

Hence, it is prudent to have separate bodies to manage the two which has also been suggested by the N.K. Singh Committee on revision of FRBM Act.

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5. There is an urgent need for India to get infrastructure financing, however, the current investment model of PPPs is poorly designed and needs restructuring. Discuss the issues plaguing the success of PPPs with respect to stalled projects, risk management, governance & institutional capacity.

भारत को अवसंरचना वित्तपोषण प्राप्त करने की तत्काल आवश्यकता है, लेकिन सार्वजनिक निजी भागीदारी (PPPs) का वर्तमान निवेश मॉडल असंतोषजनक रूप से डिजाईन (अभिकल्पित) किया गया है और इसे पुनर्संरचित करने की आवश्यकता है। अवरुद्ध परियोजनाओं, जोखिम प्रबंधन, गवर्नेंस (शासन) एवं संस्थागत क्षमता के संबंध में PPPs की सफलता में बाधक बने मुद्दों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Ans. India needs infrastructural financing to the tune of 1.5 trillion for the next decade.

Public Private Partnerships (PPP) were visualised as a tool to involve private collaboration as Government resources were not enough. For eg → construction of Hyderabad airport through PPP.

But there are various issues plaguing the success of PPPs like →

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i) ~~Stakes~~ It is poorly designed & instead of the partnership, it acts more like a contract.

ii) Its Governance →
It lacks reconciliation & grievance redressal channels for the concessionaire.

iii) Stalled Projects →
lack of success of PPP projects & its delays has led to stalling of these causing Non Performing Assets for the banks. ~~which~~
This again constrains bank's lending ability & lead to twin balance sheet problems in Indian economy.

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iv) Risk management

It is not holistically planned & does not account for unforeseen risks.

Many a times, delay due to even Governmental reasons like lack of land acquisition/clearance leads to indictment of the concessionaire.

v) Institutional Capacity

Government lacks the resources & the ~~expertise~~ expertise to monitor the projects to ensure success.

Hence, urgent need of restructuring of PPP & new ~~solutions~~ models like EPC have been introduced to solve this.

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6. What are the reasons behind a low tax base in India? Discuss the issues associated with it and the steps required to widen the tax base.

भारत में निम्नस्तरीय कर आधार के क्या कारण हैं? इससे संबद्ध मुद्दों एवं कर आधार को विस्तारित करने के लिए आवश्यक क़दमों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Ans. India has one of the lowest tax bases with only 4% of the adult working population paying taxes.

Issues with low tax base →

i) lack of resources for the Government to carry out developmental and/or welfare projects.
Eg → National Food Security Act alone entails an expenditure of Rs 1.2 lakh crore.

ii) Problems of increasing inequality due to tax evasion & lack of redistribution.
Eg → 58% wealth owned by 1% Indians just!

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

iii) Problems of increasing corruption, nexus, crony-capitalism.

iv) Also, problem of free riders.

v) Tax evasion is also funding terrorist activities threatening national security.

Steps required to widen tax base →

i) Simplification of rules and promoting single window clearance & e-filing to avoid disincentives.

ii) Strengthening revenue officials and as PM Modi asked the officials to have a helping nature.

iii) Reducing cash usage in the economy by promoting digital & less-cash economy.

iv) Crackdown on black money.

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through various laws & institutional mechanisms.

v) Government has also carried out demonetisation exercise which has increased tax filings by 20%.

vi) Promoting economic activities & formalisation of workforce is also essential.

It is important to widen tax base as already India has largely retrospective taxation scenario where direct to indirect tax ratio is 42:58 which harms the poor the most.

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7. Even though the construction sector has significant multiplier effect on the economy, in recent years, it has been showing signs of stress. What are the causes for such a state of affairs? In this context, also highlight the steps taken by the government.

यद्यपि निर्माण क्षेत्रक का अर्थव्यवस्था पर महत्वपूर्ण गुणक प्रभाव होता है, लेकिन हाल के वर्षों में यह दबाव के लक्षण दर्शाता रहा है। इस प्रकार की स्थिति के लिए कौन-से कारण जिम्मेदार हैं? इस संदर्भ में, सरकार द्वारा उठाए गए कदमों पर भी प्रकाश डालिए।

Ans. Construction sector is crucial for the nation as it has multiplier effect on the economy as →

i) It employs a large number of people especially the unskilled & semi skilled labours.

ii) Generally, most rural-to-urban migrants also absorbed by this.

iii) It creates infrastructure for furthering development & linkages in economy.

iv) Also creates social infrastructure like housing, etc.

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In recent years it has been showing stress & its contribution to GDP has shrunk to 2% of GDP.

Reasons for poor performance →

i) Growing NPA problems leading to twin balance sheet problems which is preventing private investment & capital flows.

ii) Fiscal consolidation by Government & lack of Government investment as well.

iii) Rising raw material costs like cement.

iv) Poor infrastructure like availability of electricity & obsolete technology

v) Problems of lack of clearance, land acquisition etc.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Government has taken various steps like →

i) 100% FDI in construction sector.

ii) Creating National Investment & Infrastructure Fund (NIIF) of corpus of Rs 40,000 crore.

iii) Promoting social housing schemes like National Housing For All Mission 2022.

iv) Promoting labour law reforms.

v) Government also attempted Model Land Acquisition Bill 2015.

vi) Speedy clearance & simplification of procedures through e-governance.

Hence, boosting construction sector will have multiplier effect both on developmental & welfare front.

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8. The worsening road safety situation in India is further complicated by an increasing population and proliferation of vehicles on the road. Discuss. Also, highlight the steps that are being taken by the government to address the issue of road safety and reduce the associated fatalities.

भारत में सड़क सुरक्षा की बिगड़ती स्थिति, बढ़ती जनसंख्या और सड़क पर वाहनों की संख्या में बढ़ोत्तरी के कारण और अधिक जटिल हो जाती है। चर्चा कीजिए। सरकार द्वारा सड़क सुरक्षा के मुद्दों से निपटने एवं इनसे संबद्ध मृत्यु की घटनाओं को कम करने हेतु उठाए जा रहे कदमों पर भी प्रकाश डालिए।

Ans. Indian roads witness 5 lakh accidents & 1.5 lakh related deaths annually, which has been growing consistently.

The worsening situation is further complicated due to rising population & vehicles as →

- presently India has 10% of global vehicles which will rise due to rising population (youthful population) & improvement in economic conditions & aspirations.

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This leads to colossal wastage of human resources as 50% of the victims are between 15-40 years of age.

Steps taken by the Government →

i) ~~Govt~~ Highway Ministry has come out with Model Road Safety Act which aims to reduce these fatalities.

ii) ~~Govt~~ Stringent punishments for human errors like overloading, drunken driving, etc.

iii) Proposal is also for digitised & transparent driving license awarding mechanism.

iv) Supreme Court has also asked to formulate ~~the~~ Good Samaritan Laws.

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v) National Transport Policy aims at moving people rather than vehicles and promoting public transport like MRTS to reduce pressure on roadways.

vi) Setu Bharatam project to avoid loss of life at unmanned crossing signals.

Hence, road safety is a key issue which needs speedy adressal to avoid loss of our demographic dividend.

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9. Briefly highlight the parameters used by the government to determine the extent of poverty in India. Examine the relationship of economic growth and poverty alleviation in the post-reforms era.

सरकार द्वारा भारत में निर्धनता की सीमा का निर्धारण करने हेतु उपयोग किए जाने वाले मानदंडों (पैरामीटर) पर संक्षेप में प्रकाश डालिए। आर्थिक सुधारों के बाद के युग में आर्थिक संवृद्धि और निर्धनता उन्मूलन के बीच संबंध का परीक्षण कीजिए।

Ans. The World Bank defines poverty as those living below $1.90 dollar/day on PPP basis. By this estimate, 20% of the world's poor reside in India.

The parameters used by the Government to determine the extent of poverty are →

i) Government has accepted Tendulkar Committee report which gives poverty line as Rs 1000/month in urban areas & Rs 840/month in rural areas.

ii) It takes into account calorie based requirement and is also inflation indexed.

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iii) But Rangarajan Committee also takes into account micro nutrients requirement & includes other expenditures like conveyance, rent, education, health.

Relation between economic growth & poverty alleviation in post reform era →

After the LPG reforms, India opened its economy to foreign investment & companies & role of Government reduced.

The economy is growing at an average of 7-8% since last 10 years & poverty has also considerably reduced from

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over 60% in 1960s to 21% today (Rangarajan Committee).

The high economic growth compared to Hindu Rate of growth of mid 1960s has boosted economy. Service sector has been the prominent driver of economy & high wages. Schemes like NREGA has also helped.

However, post reforms, agriculture was neglected & continues to employ 50% of population & majority of rural poor.

Also, manufacturing was not expanded and hence, the bulk of semi-skilled labour did not gain employment.

Hence, a balanced growth across all sections of population & all sectors of economy is required for poverty alleviation.

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10. Explain why the government has adopted the HELP in place of the NELP that was existing for almost a decade. Also discuss how HELP has the potential to transform India's E&P activities with special emphasis on non-conventional sources of energy.

व्याख्या कीजिए कि सरकार ने लगभग एक दशक से विद्यमान NELP के स्थान पर HELP को क्यों अपनाया है? साथ ही, ऊर्जा के गैर-परम्परागत स्रोतों पर विशेष जोर देते हुए चर्चा कीजिए कि HELP में भारत की E&P (अन्वेषण एवं उत्पादन) गतिविधियों को रूपांतरित करने की क्षमता किस प्रकार विद्यमान है।

Ans. HELP (Hydrocarbon Exploration & Licensing Policy) replaced NELP because →

i) NELP was based on ~~Revenue~~ Revenue ~~Production~~ sharing agreement which led to considerate delays as mentioned by CAG report.

ii) ~~NELP~~ ~~did~~ This also led to uncertainity in price determination and also instances of exaggeration of costs.

iii) It also did not result in simplification of procedures.

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HELP has potential immensely as →

i) HELP is based on Production sharing arrangement.

ii) It is based on open-acreage policy whereby the company has freedom to choose a block of its choice.

iii) It is also based on uniform licensing (unlike NELP) which gives one license for all the hydrocarbons in the block.

iv) It also increased royalty for deep sea operations & reduced onshore royalty thus making it proportional to the risk involved.

v) Hence, HELP will boost the exploration of hitherto unexplored

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and even small blocks.

vi) It will also lead to innovation & investment in tapping high risk resources. & invite technology like in Shale Gas production.

vii) It will also ensure ease of doing business, assured revenue supply for the Government & involvement of more players leading to better price discovery.

Hence, HELP is a necessary step to reduce our import dependance of 70% of our crude oil requirements.

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11. Successive governments have resorted to disinvestment of sick and loss-making PSUs. What, according to you, are the targets which the government seek to meet from this exercise? Also explain why the disinvestment targets have not been met in the past.

क्रमागत सरकारों ने बीमार और घाटे में चल रहे PSUs के विनिवेश का सहारा लिया है। आपके अनुसार, इस कार्यकरण से सरकार कौन-से लक्ष्य प्राप्त करना चाहती है? साथ ही, व्याख्या कीजिए कि विगत वर्षों में विनिवेश के लक्ष्यों को प्राप्त क्यों नहीं किया गया है।

Ans. Disinvestment is the process of reduction in shareholding by the Government in business entities /corporations.

Successive governments have resorted to disinvestment & present Government has also set a target for disinvestment of companies like Coal India Ltd, NPCL, NHPC etc.

Targets Government seek to meet →

1. Revenue to the Government through sale of stakes.

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ii). Utilization of resources for better purpose like welfare, development etc

iii) Inviting private expertise in management of industries.

iv) Acceptance of reduced role of Government in business activities.
Eg → disinvestment & strategic sale of modern foods.

v) Avoid drain of public resources
Eg → Air India has a debt of Rs 50,000 crore & already Rs 24,000 crore has gone into its bailout package.

vi) Inviting technology & efficiency.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Disinvestment targets have not been met in past because →

i) lack of interest by private players.

ii) low response in market and not as expected by the government leading to unwillingness of Govt. to sell at reduced prices.

iii) Protests by employees & unions.

iv) National security & strategic concerns

like → unwillingness in disinvestment of Ordnance factories.

Hence, disinvestment has many benefits & should be carefully carried out.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

12. What is hydroponics? Discuss its relevance in light of limited land availability while ensuring food security.

हाइड्रोपोनिक्स (hydroponics) क्या है? सीमित भूमि उपलब्धता की दृष्टि से खाद्य सुरक्षा को सुनिश्चित करने हेतु इसकी प्रासंगिकता पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Ans. Hydroponics is a technique in effient management of water in agriculture.
It reduces wastage of crucial resources.

It is important because →

i) It can boost land productivity which is low today.

ii) Increased agricultural productivity can lead to food security. as →

— Food demand is stated to grow from 260 million tonne today to 450 million tonne by 2050 while agricultural land is

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expected to reduce from present 145 million hectare.

iii) It will also lead to sustainable agricultural practices & avoid degradation of soil through soil erosion & salinization due to excessive water use.

iv) It will also result in nutritional security by promoting diversity in agricultural basket like pulses, millet, etc.

Hence, along with this PM Krishi Sinchai Yojana can play a part in achieving 4% target growth in agriculture & really doubling of agricultural income by 2022

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Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

13. It is argued by many that there is an urgent need for states to reform land laws and, in particular, tenancy laws. What are the factors cited for the need of such reforms? Identify the impediments in the way of such reforms and highlight the benefits that would accrue from them.

कई लोगों द्वारा यह तर्क दिया जाता है कि राज्यों को भूमि कानूनों, विशेष रूप से काश्तकारी (tenancy) कानूनों में सुधार करने की तत्काल आवश्यकता है। इस प्रकार के सुधारों की आवश्यकता के लिए कौन-से कारकों को उद्धृत किया जाता है? ऐसे सुधारों के मार्ग में आने वाली बाधाओं की पहचान कीजिए एवं इनसे प्राप्त होने वाले लाभों पर प्रकाश डालिए।

Ans. land reforms were attempted just after independence but there has been limited success in this.

There is a need for land reforms as →

i) Agrarian distress is increasing & bulk of India's poverty is due to dependance on low productivity agriculture.

ii) SECC data pointed out landlessness as the most common form of disability → 24% rural household.

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iii) It is also required for social development as most of the landless are dalits & marginalised

iv) Bulk of India's farmers upto 80% are small & marginal.

v) To provide security of tenure & guarentee of ownership to the tenants & owners respectively

Impediments of such reforms →

i) lack of political will as landholding communities are source of vote bank.

ii) Lack of land records properly

iii) Reluctance by the people

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like the land owners who fear loss in ownership due to long-period tenants.

iv) Improper ~~tere~~ tenancy laws. guaranteeing land for permanent tenants.

Benefits →

i) It will avoid absentee landlordism & landlessness at the same time.

ii) It will pave way for economies of scale in agriculture & avoid fragmentation.

iii) It will lead to modernisation of agriculture & improved productivity & livelihood.

iv) It will also free disguised labour

Hence, tenancy land reforms are important & also been recommended by M.S. Swaminathan & NITI Aayog

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14. Discuss the potential of horticulture sector in realizing the government's vision of doubling the farm income. Also, highlight the challenges which are needed to be addressed for realizing full potential of this sector.

कृषि आय को दोगुना करने की सरकार की परिकल्पना को साकार करने में बागवानी (हॉर्टिकल्चर) क्षेत्रक की क्षमता पर चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही, इस क्षेत्रक की सम्पूर्ण क्षमता को वास्तविकता में परिणत करने के लिए उन चुनौतियों पर भी प्रकाश डालिए जिनसे निपटना आवश्यक है।

Ans. Horticulture sector is important part of agriculture as it contributes 30% to the agricultural GDP.

It has high potential →

i) Horticulture is a labour intensive sector

ii) It is more remunerative & produces high value products like Medicinal plants, Aromatic plants, flowers, fruits, vegetables, spices etc.

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iii) It can boost agro-forestry &
iv) also boost tribal livelihood & community based initiatives.
v) It can also help in reducing regional disparity in achievements of agriculture → eg → fruits in North East.
vi) It can boost income as it leads to diversification of income & reduced agriculture related income volatility.
vii) It can also act as a feeder to agro-processing industries & boost income by encouraging local entrepreneurship & contract farming.

Challenges in this sector →
i) Providing better quality seeds, institutional support like credit, etc electricity etc.

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ii) Maintaining ecological sensitivity of hilly areas.

iii) Problems of accessibility especially in North East India.

iv) ~~Providing~~ Avoiding wastage which is to the tune of 40% in vegetables through Cold-storage units.

v) National Agriculture Market for better remuneration of farmers by abolishing APMC Act.

vi) Promoting hygiene & sanitation as per global norms & proper branding eg → GI tags.

Hence, horticulture is important & will boost export revenue as well as nutritional security.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

15. Not only does the yield (measured in tonnes/ha.) of a crop but a number of other factors determine the choice of crops that a farmer cultivates. Elaborate with special focus on cropping pattern in India.

एक किसान द्वारा उपजाई जाने वाली फसलों के चयन को न केवल फसल की उपज (टन/हेक्टेयर में मापी गयी) अपितु कई अन्य कारक भी निर्धारित करते हैं। भारत में प्रचलित फसल प्रतिरूपों (पैटर्न) पर विशेष ध्यान केन्द्रित करते हुए विस्तारपूर्वक व्याख्या कीजिए।

Ans

Yield refers to agricultural productivity which is given as output in tonne / ha of land.

Yield is important for choice of crop as higher yield results in more income from the same piece of land.

Eg → Yield of sugarcane in U.P is 1/2 that of Cauvery delta & hence it is migrating southwards.

Other factors determining choice of crops →

i) Geographic factors →

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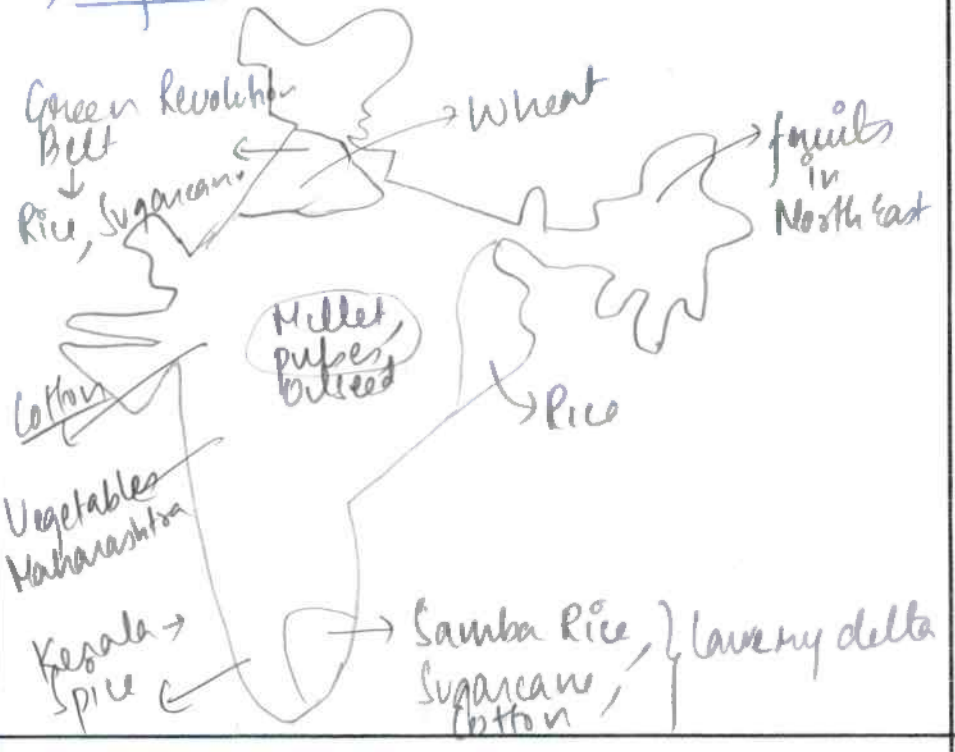
i) Rainfall pattern like dry crops like Millets, pulses are mainly produced in dryland area.

ii) Soil → alluvium soils are the most intensively cultivated

iii) Agricultural intensity i.e. the no. of crops per year also decides.
For eg → 3 crops of rice grown in Bengal.

iv) Slope & terrain → like Tea, Coffee



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ii) Institutional Factors

i) Availability of technology & commercialization of agriculture.

Eg → Green Revolution Belt cultivating Basmati Rice & Sugarcane.

ii) Availability of credit and other facilities.

iii) Market consideration →

Eg → areas near cities focus on high value perishables through market gardening.

iv) Traditional crops and culture also affects farmer's choice Eg → North India → Wheat.

Hence, India is a land of diversity which is reflected in diversity of agricultural choices as well.

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16. Discuss the significance of food processing industry in the economic development of the country and the challenges which need to be tackled for sustained growth of the industry. Also elaborate on the the salient features of National Mission on Food Processing.

देश के आर्थिक विकास में खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योग के महत्व के साथ-साथ उन चुनौतियों की भी चर्चा कीजिए जिनसे निपटना इस उद्योग के संधारणीय विकास हेतु आवश्यक है। राष्ट्रीय खाद्य प्रसंस्करण मिशन की प्रमुख विशेषताओं की विस्तारपूर्वक व्याख्या कीजिए।

Ans. Food Processing industry is significant as it contributes to both agricultural GDP & q.v. to Industrial GDP.

It is important as. →

i) 80% of our population is directly or indirectly dependent on agriculture.

ii) It can provide linkages to agriculture & boost food security.

iii) It can help boost agricultural export.

iv) It can help in attaining doubling of farm income.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Challenges that needs to be tackled →

i) Reducing food wastages to the tune of 40% in vegetables & 30% in foodgrains.

ii) Increasing processing levels from present 3% to 40% like SE Asia.

iii) Agriculture suffers from price & output volatility & assured supply of quality raw material compromised.

iv) Investment & accessibility & infrastructural development is required.

v) Adhering to global sanitary & phyto-sanitary norms & proper branding.

vi) Promoting MSME & small farmers

vii) Behavioral change in public towards consumption of processed goods.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Salient features of MMFP →

i) Creation of Food Processing Parks & Clusters as hub-and-spoke model.

ii) Creating infrastructure like cold storage & abbatoirs.

iii) Also providing credit & entrepreneurial skills like MUDRA Yojana, Stand Up India.

iv) Promotion to exports & presenting of GI tags

v) Balanced expansion of Food Processing Zones like recently one in Guwahati was inaugurated.

Hence, food processing industry needs our key attention and government has a dedicated Ministry for this purpose.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

17. Financial support to farmers through various instruments has been a crucial aspect of agricultural policy of the government. Examine whether the proposal of moving towards direct transfer of benefits and universal crop insurance would alleviate the existing concerns in the current scenario.

विभिन्न साधनों के माध्यम से किसानों को वित्तीय सहायता प्रदान करना सरकार की कृषि नीति का एक महत्वपूर्ण पहलू रहा है। परीक्षण कीजिए कि क्या प्रत्यक्ष लाभ अंतरण और सार्वभौमिक फसल बीमा की ओर कदम बढ़ाने का प्रस्ताव वर्तमान परिदृश्य में विद्यमान चिंताओं को कम कर पाएगा?

Ans. Government has provided financial support to farmers in many ways like Minimum Support Price, Electricity Subsidy, Fertilizer Subsidy and even loan waivers.

Direct Benefit Transfer will alleviate concerns as →

i) It will provide choice of spending to the farmers.

ii) It will reduce leakages like Shanta Kumar Committee said 40% leakages in PDS.

iii) It will also address delay in payment of subsidies &

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

will not affect crop cycle.

Universal crop insurance

will solve as →

i) It will eliminate the use of loan waivers as a political tool which rather breeds poor credit culture.

ii) It will address the issue of fluctuation due to monsoon dependance as post-harvest losses also included.

iii) It will lead to increased social security at low premium & avoid distress steps like farmer suicides.

iv) Use of technology in assessing damages will bring in transparency & again reduce leakage

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

However,
other problems exist which needs to be solved like –
- Rationalization of subsidies,
- providing forward & backward linkages to agriculture,
- formalisation of agricultural credit with special focus on capital investment,
- diversification & sustainable agriculture.

Hence, DBT & Crop Insurance Schemes are important but not enough to solve all problems of the agricultural sector.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

18. Buffer stocking of food grains is seen as a vehicle to deliver strategic food and agricultural domestic support policies, however, there is a growing consensus that the programme has been not just costly but also imprudently wasteful. Critically evaluate.

खाद्यानों के सुरक्षित भंडारण (बफर स्टॉकिंग) को खाद्य एवं कृषि संबंधी रणनीतिक घरेलू समर्थन नीतियाँ प्रदान करने के साधन के रूप में देखा गया है, लेकिन इस संबंध में यह मतैक्य बनता जा रहा है कि यह कार्यक्रम न केवल महँगा बल्कि अविवेकपूर्ण रूप से अपव्ययी भी रहा है। आलोचनात्मक मूल्यांकन कीजिए।

Ans. Buffer stockholding refers to public stockholding of foodgrains with the dual purpose of ensuring food security & remunerative price to farmers.

Farmers $\xrightarrow{MSP}$ FCI $\xrightarrow{CIP}$ (Central Issue Price) State Govt $\rightarrow$ PDS $\rightarrow$ Customers

Under this, government delivers Rice, Wheat & Coarse Grain at Rs 3, Rs 2 and Re 1 respectively to the needy public.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

But it has concerns like →

i) It is costly ~~and~~ with not even half of the costs being recovered through this.

ii) It is found that only 6% of farmers sell through MSP and hence it is tokenist.

iii) It has also lead to distortions of agriculture.

iv) It is wasteful as upto 40% leakages in PDS.

v) Also, FCI is not adequately enabled & we witness large scale rotting of foodgrains.

vi) Also, leads to distortions in market space where MSP instead of the minimum price, has become the defacto market price.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

But it has its merits like →

i) It ensures food security especially to the poor & Antyodaya population

ii) Also, ensures safety of consumers from fluctuating prices.

But, already buffer stocking is under scanner under WTO negotiations and best way would be to follow Shanta Kumar committee recommendations to ensure efficiency & also that the benefits are not cornered by the rich farmers alone.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

19. Discuss the lacunae in implementation of Minimum Wages Act in ensuring the welfare of agricultural labour. Also, suggest some other measures to improve the situation of agricultural labourers in the country.

कृषि श्रमिकों के कल्याण को सुनिश्चित करने की दिशा में न्यूनतम मजदूरी अधिनियम के कार्यान्वयन में विद्यमान कमियों पर चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही, देश में कृषि मजदूरों की स्थिति सुधारने हेतु कुछ अन्य उपायों का सुझाव दीजिए।

Ans- Minimum Wages Act was intended to prevent labour exploitation especially agricultural labour.

But,
lacunae in implementation because →
i) Agriculture is a state subject & Wages is in concurrent list and centre-state cooperation is necessary.
ii) lack of empowerment of labours to ensure accountability & transparency.
iii) Bureaucratic red tapism & delays.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

iv) Corruption is also one of the inhibiting factors.

SECC data shows landlessness as the most severe form of deprivation in rural areas and suggestions to improve their conditions are →

i) Land reforms and its proper implementation.

ii) Tenancy laws ensuring stability.

iii) Diversification of agricultural landscape into for eg. livestocks.

iv) Proper implementation of Minimum Wages Act by using channels like JAM trinity to avoid leakages.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

v) NREGA is a good step which acts as benchmark price in rural areas.

vi) Promoting e-governance and social audits through gram Sabha.

~~Hence~~,

Absorbing excess labour in the Manufacturing Sector through Make in India & Skill India mission will also help in securing better livelihood to agricultural labours.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

20. In spite of having the world's largest livestock population in India, the potential of animal rearing remains underutilized. In this context, discuss the challenges faced by the meat and poultry sector and suggest measures for accelerated and sustained growth for this sector.

भारत में विश्व की सर्वाधिक पशुधन संख्या होने के बावजूद भी पशुपालन क्षमता का पूर्ण दोहन नहीं किया जा सका है। इस संदर्भ में मांस तथा कुक्कुट क्षेत्रक द्वारा सामना की जाने वाली चुनौतियों की चर्चा कीजिए एवं इस क्षेत्रक की त्वरित एवं संधारणीय वृद्धि के लिए उपाय सुझाइए।

Ans. India has 20% of world's livestock in 2.6% of world's geographic area having less than 1% of pasture land.

Livestock sector includes → milch animals like cows, buffalos, poultry, sericulture, apiculture, piggery, sheeps, goats etc.

Challenges faced by the sector →

1) low productivity of indegenous breeds of cows in milk production.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

ii) Lack of demand for indian meat in global market due to hygiene considerations.

iii) Lack of food processing.

iv) Uncertain policy environment & religious considerations.
Eg → recent ban on all inter-state movement of cows.

v) Poor maintainance & livestock quality due to various diseases, lack of veterary facilities, lack of fodder, etc.

Measures for growth of sector →

i) Boosting food processing through Mega food Parks.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

ii) Scattered nature of livestocks like → piggery in North East, ~~Poultry in Arca~~ sheep rearing in Western Himalayas.

iii) Infrastructural development like cold storage & marketing.

iv) Enhancing productivity through hybridisation & technological improvement.

v) Proper health and quality checks.

Protein consumption is stated to grow in India with increasing population & non-vegetarian diet and animal husbandry is crucial to ensure nutritional security.